

BSPS Honors Program

Outstanding undergraduate students have the opportunity of enhancing their educational experiences by participating in the Honors Program and/or by completing a formal research project. Students not participating in one of these programs may also graduate with Latin honors based on grade point average.

Honors Program

The Honors program in the College of Pharmacy help students develop academic and/or personal character skills through participation in an academically-related experience that contributes to both personal development and to some aspect of the public good, such as production of new scientific/clinical knowledge, participation in community service, involvement in public policy, or immersion in a different cultural environment.

Requirements for completing the Honors program include completing all BSPS program requirements, acceptance into the honors program, 18 credit hours of honors courses (6 must be from STEM fields), an honors project, and maintenance of a GPA of 3.5 or better. The honors project requires completion of at least four credit hours of the Honors Project Course (PHR 4997), completion of a document summarizing results of the experience, and sharing of the experiences through participation in an honors project day. Honors students may also graduate with distinction, in which case a formal research project (see below) replaces the honors project.

A variety of project activities are acceptable provided the activity falls within the healthcare field. Some examples of projects include doing laboratory-based research, doing a literature summary and writing a review article, participating in outreach and engagement activities coupled with either development of new presentations or evaluation of effectiveness of current presentations, participating in an industry internship, or working in a healthcare setting in which data are gathered and analyzed in an effort to improve healthcare. Creativity in development of projects is encouraged.

Formal initiation of the project is accomplished by submitting the *Honors Project Initiation Form* to the Academic Counselor for approval by the BSPS Program Committee. The outline will summarize the nature of the project and the goals to be accomplished along with identification of and approval by a project mentor/advisor. The responsibilities of the advisor are to meet periodically with the student to evaluate progress through discussion and checking materials such as research notes, literature notes, or diary entries and by providing suggestions and encouragement. The culmination of the honors project will be preparation of a document summarizing the project and presentation at an Honors Project Day (Pharmacy Research Day, Denman Undergraduate Research Forum) forum. The written document may be in the form of a scientific paper, suggestions for public policy, description of experiences, or lessons learned. The forum will consist of poster and oral presentations as best fit the projects.

Current and newly-enrolled undergraduate students may obtain/retain membership in the honors program by contacting the Student Affairs Office. Honors students who transfer to or are admitted to the College with previous honors status will need to connect with an Academic Counselor to be sure their honors status can transfer.

Research Project – Graduation with Distinction

Undergraduate research activities in the College of Pharmacy help students develop skills in the research process, including development of good questions/hypotheses to explore, planning strategies for testing hypotheses or answering questions, carrying out experiments, analyzing data, and writing results.

Requirements for completing an undergraduate student research project and graduation with distinction include participation in research for at least two semesters with an average commitment of 2 to 3 credit hours of pharmacy 4998 (6-9 research activity hours per week), presentation of the work at the Honors Project Day/Denman Undergraduate Research Forum and/or the College of Pharmacy Research Day, completion of a written document (10 to 15 pages in length) describing the research conducted, and maintenance of a GPA of 3.0 or better.

A variety of project activities are acceptable provided the activity falls within the life sciences or healthcare field. Some examples include synthesis and isolation of novel drug candidates, explanation of drug action in animal and cell culture models, development of new drugs and delivery systems, determination of drug metabolism, analysis of effectiveness of therapeutic regimens, determination of extent of use of various practice activities, or something //need an appropriate verb or activity here// related to public health.

Formal initiation of the project is accomplished by submitting the Research Project Outline form to the academic counselor for approval by the BSPS Program Committee. The outline will summarize the nature of the project and the goals to be accomplished along with identification of and approval by project mentor/advisor. The responsibilities of the advisor are to direct the research activities, to train the student in appropriate methodology, and to help student with preparation of the presentation and writing of the research. The culmination of the research project will be preparation of a document summarizing the project and presentation at either the Denman Undergraduate Research Forum and/or College of Pharmacy Research Day. Projects may be completed under the direction of mentors outside of the College of Pharmacy. In this situation, the student should register for research hours in the mentor's department. Research may also be done during special situations such as during a summer project in industry or at NIH with approval of the BPS Program Committee.

Honors GPA

Any student who graduates from the BPS program with a 3.5 or higher GPA will receive an honors cord to wear as part of their regalia. These students will graduate with Latin Honors. Such designation does not require participation in the Honors Program or completion of a research project. Student may graduate with both Latin and BPS Honors, but also may only graduate with Latin Honors.



BSPS Honors Project Initiation Form

An Honors BSPS student will develop academic and/or personal character skills through participation in academically-related experiences that contributes to both personal development and to some aspect of the public good, such as production of new scientific/clinical knowledge, participation in community service, involved in public policy, or immersion in a different cultural environment.

Student Name.#: _____

Student ID: _____

Project Title: _____

Name of Faculty Mentor: _____

Please attach a one paragraph description of your project, and list the learning goals you hope to accomplish.

I, _____ agree to and understand the following:

- I will be responsible for coordinating regular communication with my Faculty Mentor in order to regularly evaluate the progress of my Honors Project.
- I will communicate with the BSPS Honors Academic Advisor if the nature of my Honors Project should change, or if any other notable issues/challenges should arise.
- I will register for 2-3 credit hours of PHR 4997 with my Faculty Mentor for at least two semesters (total 6-9 credit hours).
- I will produce a written document/poster summarizing my Honors Project, and will present this information at the *Honors Project Day Forum*/Denman Undergraduate Research Forum/Pharmacy Research Day.
- I am responsible for completing the *BSPS Honors Project Completion Form* and submitting it to the BSPS Honors Academic Advisor within two weeks of presenting my project.

(Student Signature)

(Date)

Please turn your completed form in to the Honors Academic Advisor in 150 Parks Hall

Office Use Only

Received by Academic Counselor: _____
(Initial and date)

Approval by BSPS Committee: _____
(Initial and date)



BSPS Honors Project Completion Form

Student Name.#: _____

Student ID: _____

Project Title: _____

Name of Faculty Mentor: _____

Please include the following:

- Completed *Project Initiation Form*
- Proof of registration of at least six credit hours of PHR 4997 (advising report)
- Project Report: Including list of learning goals accomplished
- Confirmation of participation in Honors Project Day Forum

(Student Signature)

(Date)

(Faculty Mentor Signature)

(Date)

Please turn your completed form in to the Honors Academic Advisor in 150 Parks Hall

Office Use Only

Please confirm that the above checklist items are included with the *BSPS Honors Project Completion Form*

Received by Academic Counselor: _____
(Initial and date)

Approval by BSPS Committee: _____
(Initial and date)



BSPS Graduation with Distinction Initiation Form

Undergraduate research activities in the College of Pharmacy help students to develop skills in the research process, including development of good questions/hypotheses to explore, planning strategies for testing hypotheses or answering questions, carrying out experiments, analyzing data, and writing results.

Student Name.#: _____

Student ID: _____

Project Title: _____

Name of Faculty Mentor: _____

Please attach a description of your project, and list the learning goals you hope to accomplish.

I, _____ agree to and understand the following:

- I will be responsible for coordinating regular communication with my Faculty Mentor in order to regularly evaluate the progress of my research project.
- I will communicate with my Academic Advisor if the nature of my research project should change, or if any other notable issues/challenges should arise.
- I will register for a minimum of 6 hours of PHR 4998 (2 credit hours) with my Faculty Mentor for at least two semesters.
- I will produce a document summarizing the project and present at either/or the Denman Undergraduate Research Forum and the College of Pharmacy Research Day.
- I will submit my research project to the OSU Knowledge Bank (kb.osu.edu).
- I am responsible for completing the *BSPS Research Distinction Completion Form* and submitting it to my BSPS Academic Advisor within two weeks of presenting at the Honors Project Day Forum/Pharmacy Research Day and/or Denman Undergraduate Forum.
- Please initial here if you are also a member of the BSPS Honors Program _____.

(Student Signature)

(Date)

Please turn your completed form in to your Academic Advisor in 150 Parks Hall

Office Use Only

Received by Academic Counselor: _____
(Initial and date)

Approval by BSPS Committee: _____
(Initial and date)



BSPS Research Distinction Completion Form

Student Name.#: _____

Student ID: _____

Project Title: _____

Name of Faculty Mentor: _____

Please include the following:

- Completed *BSPS Research Distinction Initiation Form*
- Proof of registration of at least six credit hours of PHR 4998 (advising report)
- Final Project Report: Including list of learning goals accomplished
- Confirmation of participation in Honors Project Day Forum/Pharmacy Research Day and/or Denman Undergraduate Research Forum

(Student Signature)

(Date)

(Faculty Mentor Signature)

(Date)

Please turn your completed form in to your Academic Advisor in 150 Parks Hall

Office Use Only

Please confirm that the above checklist items are included with the *BSPS Research Distinction Completion Form*

Received by Academic Counselor: _____
(Initial and date)

Approval by BSPS Committee: _____
(Initial and date)